

## **Media Contact:**

Sarah Ardalani Public Information Officer 213-257-2000 SArdalani@da.lacounty.gov

Twitter: @LADAOffice

Feb. 8, 2016

## **Compton Man Convicted of Pimping, Sexual Assaults**

A 47-year-old man was convicted late last week of pimping teenage girls and sexual abuse, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

On Feb. 4, a jury found defendant Rulie Chevez Sprewell (dob 6/26/68) of Compton guilty of seven felony counts in case NA092429: three counts of forcible oral copulation, and one count each of pimping for minor over 16 years, pandering by encouraging a minor over age 16, pimping, and pandering by procuring.

In a court trial a day after the verdict, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Judith L. Meyer found that Sprewell was previously convicted of robbery.

Sentencing for Sprewell is scheduled for April 21 in Department S17 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch. The defendant faces a maximum possible sentence of 63 years in state prison.

Deputy District Attorney Rachel Hardiman, who prosecuted that case, said in August 2010, Sprewell began acting as a pimp for an 18-year-old girl in Hollywood.

On Aug. 19, 2010, the teenager got in the car of a man, who turned out to be an undercover officer. While in custody, the teen disclosed that Sprewell had been her pimp for several weeks. Also, she said the defendant had just beaten her, the prosecutor said.

In October 2011, Sprewell approached a 16-year-old girl and forced her to work for him as a prostitute, the prosecutor said. The defendant used violence and threats to control the teenager and made her work in Los Angeles, Compton and Long Beach, the prosecutor added.

Additionally, Sprewell sexually assaulted the teen more than 50 times over the three months that she worked for him, the prosecutor said. The teenage victim was able to break free of Sprewell's control when she was apprehended by police in December 2011.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles and Long Beach police departments.

###

## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's</u>

Office prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.